

Johnson Tarbutt Joint Landfill Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday, August 15, 2022
5:15 pm, Tarbutt Council Chambers

Present: Ruth Wigmore, Chair
Darren McClelland
Reg McKinnon

Staff: Chris Hall
Carol Trainor

1. Introductions

R. Wigmore called the meeting to order at 5:20.

Chris Hall, new landfill attendant, was introduced.

2. Notes from the Previous Meeting

The record of the Landfill Committee meeting held June 1, 2022 was circulated.

3. Update on Waste Hauling Contract with GFL

The Clerk advised that a meeting was held with GFL in July resulting in a reduction in lift rates for both the six yard household bin and the 40 yard non-household bin. Two additional 6 yd bins have been brought in to accommodate the amount of garbage, for a total of eight bins. If the volume drops enough after peak season the last two bins can be removed but the amount of waste coming in over the summer has exceeded all expectations.

Following the June Landfill Committee meeting, GFL was asked to provide a quote for a 53 yd bin to collect household waste. GFL requested that we maintain the current system at present, as it is the same system in place across the province. To stray from this process with different sized bins and different trucks to collect and replace bins, would be less efficient and perhaps more costly. Tarbutt staff have followed up with this quotation request with no response. GFL has also not provided a quote for curbside collection.

4. Share shed update.

The share shed is running very well now under the leadership of volunteer Dorothy Glover. She has asked for more help, so notices have been posted seeking volunteers. Having a pool of people to draw from would reduce the amount of time each person would spend there.

A poster seeking share shed volunteers has been posted on both websites and is posted at the Trading Post, township office and the landfill. The poster was sent to Johnson asking them to help recruit volunteers.

5. Tires

Fountain Tire has agreed to take the tires from the Landfill, in smaller batches, but they will not accept tires with rims. D. Farrar has agreed to remove the rims from the tires. The Attendants were asked to start working on separating the tires with rims from tires without rims for transport. Rims can go directly into the scrap metal bin.

6. Bunker

At this time, the bunker is only being used for overflow of furniture and very bulky items that take up a lot of space in the bin. It can also be used for dry, non-household items such as construction material, but not any type of household waste that animals would be interested in eating.

Karhi Contracting has been asked and reminded regularly about repairing the fencing on the bunker. They are waiting for materials, and a particular type of galvanized fencing has been delayed.

7. Christmas Landfill Hours

December 24 and 31 fall on a Saturday. To reduce the impact to residents, and due to the additional material produced over the holiday, staff recommend that the site open Saturdays for reduced hours. Otherwise, the site would only be open Wednesday afternoons. The Attendants have agreed to these changes.

Moved by: D. McClelland / Seconded by: R. McKinnon
Be it resolved that the Landfill Committee recommends to the Johnson and Tarbutt Councils that the Landfill hours be adjusted on Saturday, December 24 and Saturday, December 31 to 9 am to 1 pm and
That this information be widely publicized and circulated by both townships.
Carried

8. Blue Box Transition to Producer Responsibility

Although our actual transition date to Producer Responsibility is 2025, decisions are required this year on whether or not to enter into a contract with the lead organization representing the producers, which is CMO (Circular Materials Ontario). GFL will not be in the running although as a hauler and a processor, they will likely have a contract with the producers (PROs). At this time, CMO is only considering a municipal compensation structure based on 2020 recycling data. This amount would be highly unrealistic.

How we move forward will depend on these negotiations and whether we contract with CMO for processing, or wait and see if enough municipalities do not contract with them. At this stage of discussions they are not willing to provide adequate compensation for hauling or processing or collection. They are unwilling to consider how our entire recycling system has been transformed since 2020.

Depending on who wins the RFP, it is possible that the recycling locations currently in place locally could be changed or eliminated.

In the meantime, we are required to complete a cost calculator based on 2020 recycling data which will be used to determine our recycling rebate. We hope to convince CMO that 2020 is the worst possible year to use as a baseline measurement, given the societal and economic fluctuations that altered the tonnage collected. We also had a different hauler, collected fewer streams of materials, and the landfill was not staffed for most of the year, which may have resulted in recycling being dumped into the landfill. We also paid a flat fee for each bin emptied at that time.

CMO will only reimburse and manage residential recycling, and intend to withhold 25% of the refund rate to allow for commercial/industrial recycling. We also intend to demonstrate that we have far less than 25% IC&I and should not be subject to this standard deduction. According to MPAC, Tarbutt has a total of 9 commercial and 12 industrial properties, many of which do not generate any recycling material. Even combined with the commercial/industrial properties in Johnson, we would still fall far below the 25% threshold that they will withhold from our payment allocation. We will need Johnson to provide the same statistical information on the number of properties in each class.

We have also created a survey of local businesses that we will use to determine how they recycle, the amount they recycle, the types of recycling they generate, and how they get it to a recycling depot (landfill or turnoff), which will be used to demonstrate our low commercial intake rate.

9. Bag Limit

Given the amount of garbage that we have received over the last six months, the matter of imposing a bag limit has come up a few times. This is common practice which is felt to encourage recycling, and is currently the requirement in Blind River, Bruce Mines, Plummer, Thessalon and many other rural municipalities in Ontario. Echo Bay did have a two bag limit but compliance rates increased to a point that they were able to remove it.

Typically the limit is two bags per household, per week. Additional tags can be purchased if someone needs more than two each week.

10. Other business

A large burn was done in July and another will be planned for September. The new pump will be kept at the Tarbutt roads garage until it is needed.

11. Adjournment

The Joint Landfill Committee meeting of August 15, 2022 adjourned at 6:45 pm, and will meet again at the call of the chair.



S.R. Wigmore, Chair